

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1877.]

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PANJAB,

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES,

POUDH, AND CENTRAL PROVINCES,

Received up to 28th April, 1877.

POLITICAL.

GENERAL.

The *Aligarh Institute Gazette*, of the 2nd March, in reviewing the speech of Lord Lytton at the Delhi darbar said that the natives had been led by mistake to indulge in extravagant hopes of substantial good ensuing from the imperial darbar, and were thus necessarily doomed to disappointment. An indulgence in such wild hopes was the necessary result of their utter ignorance of the fundamental principles of the English Government, which are characterised by great simplicity and which ought to be the fundamental principles of every civilised Government.

The *Rahbar-i-Hind*, of the 24th April, taking the above passage as the text for its remarks tries to show by a number of references that the principles on which the English

Government conducts the administration of India are anything but simple. As to the higher appointments in the public service the Government has entered, as alleged by Lord Lytton in his late Convocation speech at Calcutta, into two conflicting agreements, one with the members of the covenanted civil service, and the other with the natives, and both of which it is bound to carry out. Within the last two years three grand darbars have been held by the Government involving an expenditure of lakhs of rupees to the Government and of crores of rupees to the native chiefs. Every day sees a new law or regulation enacted, and the number of Acts now in force in India is to be counted by hundreds with the provisions of which every one should keep himself informed. We have no representatives in the Legislative Council that legislates for us. The natives are excluded from offices of trust and responsibility, while a mixture of the native and the European elements would act as a safeguard against any mistakes being committed by European officers owing to their ignorance or prejudices. It will thus be seen that the principles of the English Government are the very reverse of simple. The darbars held in these days are as expensive as those held in the time of Akbar. But the former differ from the latter in one important respect. Formerly those who were worthy of honour were laden with honours and riches at darbars, but now the darbars involve men in debt and are only a source of disappointment to them. If the principles of the English Government were really characterised by simplicity, what necessity was there for Her Majesty to assume the title of the Empress of India? Were we not as much pleased with the English Government before the assumption of the imperial title as we now are? Was not the power of the Government recognised as supreme in India then as it now is? In truth the principles of the English Government are not simple in India but in England, where the imperial finances are laid out, not on the outward splendour and grandeur of the State but in exalting the honour

and promoting the prosperity of the nation, and where the popular voice carries a great weight. The editor then argues at length the propriety and justice of admitting natives of proved ability and merit into the higher grades of the public service.

A correspondent of the *Anwar-ul-Akhbār*, of the 20th April, in refutation of an article that appeared in the same paper of the 20th March, (*vide* the first page of the *Selections* for the week ending the 24th March, 1877,) asks what proofs are there that the Government is bent on promoting friendliness between the rulers and the ruled. Dismissal of Government servants on the plea of economy, the imposition of a new tax, the severities of the law, and so forth, may commend themselves to the sages of the time but not to all.

Religious prejudices can have nothing to do with the prevalence of discontent among the people since notwithstanding the religious intolerance of the Muhammadan kings who even went so far as to demolish Hindu temples and break idols, the Hindus and Mussalmans were animated, even as they are now, with great sympathy for one another. The old phrase—the sages of Europe—does not necessarily apply to the English nation, because this nation has only lately come into prominence. Avarice, frugality, and cunning characterise all the acts and measures of Englishmen. The members of the English Parliament are changed every second or third year, and new men are nominated in their places who have no knowledge of the wants and feelings of the people. Parliament is not free from error, and is even looked upon by some as a great blunder. Look at some of its prominent acts. Both England and India are still smarting under the disgrace of the disastrous Cabul campaign. The mutiny of 1857 originated from the introduction of greased cartridges.

The *Malwa Akhbar*, of the 18th April, says that in spite of its vaunted justice the English Government has not yet

redeemed a hundredth part of its pledges given to the natives at the commencement of its rule in India. This failure on the part of the Government to redeem its pledges has been a source of great discouragement and depression to the natives, as will be easily perceived from the native press. The reduction in the limit of age from 21 to 19 years for the candidates to the civil service examination has added one more difficulty to the many under which the native candidates already laboured. It has now been made impossible for a native to be able to compete at the examination. The editor then publishes the proceedings of the meeting lately held by the educated natives of Calcutta at the Town Hall on the 24th March last, to appeal to Parliament protesting against the reduction in the limit of age.

TURKEY.

The *Mufid-i-Am*, of the 20th April, in reference to the Eastern question which has now reached a crisis and the war between Russia and Turkey now declared, says that the Mussalmans of India, bearing in mind the tender heartedness, benevolence, and honesty of purpose of the English nation, and the old standing friendship between England and the Porte, are impatiently waiting to see what line of policy she is going to adopt. The Porte is threatened both by internal and external foes, and it remains to be seen whether England allows her old ally to shift for itself, or, yielding to her sympathy for it, extends to it a helping hand. An outbreak of a Russo-Turkish war will endanger the peace and tranquillity of all Europe. No one would be surprised if the war were to become general and gradually spread over the whole earth. Under these circumstances it behoves England to intervene at once as a mediator and stop the war. An armistice should be secured between the belligerents, and such lenient conditions of peace should be proposed as may not be opposed to the treaty of 1856, and may not compromise the honour and dignity of the Ottoman empire.

The Mirzapur correspondent of the *Benares Akhbār*, of the 5th April, referring to the meeting lately held at Mirzapur by the Mussalmans to raise subscriptions for the wounded soldiers of Turkey, says that one or two Hindus also were present at the meeting and contributed subscriptions. It is really a matter of deep regret that not a single native has contributed a farthing for the relief of his fellow sufferers in the Deccan. What good, we ask, have the natives to expect from the Turks?

NATIVE STATES.

The *Kavi Vachān Sudhā*, of the 23rd April, complains of the prevalence of corruption and bribery among the officers of native chiefs. Even those men who have received an English education feel no scruple in enriching themselves by illegal means when they are in the service of a native chief.

A correspondent of the *Lauh-i-Mahfuz*, of the 23rd March, writing from Bahádarpur (Ulwar), protests against the practice of selling girls which is said to be greatly on the increase in the Ulwar State. Men are in the habit of marrying their daughters to old men on receiving a suitable sum of money. The result is that these women soon become widows, and have to pass the rest of their life in widowhood.

The *Nusrat-ul-Akhbār*, of the 21st April, referring to the order of the English Resident at Jaipur that the Maharaja should have to walk on foot from the gate of the Residency garden to the Kothi when His Highness comes to pay him a visit, as a punishment for a certain breach of etiquette on His Highness' part (*vide* the *Selections* for the week ending the 21st April, 1877, page 275), observes:—We were as yet under the impression that the Residents at the native States were nothing more than envoys, and had power to act as such and not to assert their authority over the chiefs. But now we see that they are higher in rank than the native rulers themselves. Thus they are no longer mere Residents. They should properly be looked upon as the rulers of the native States, and the native chiefs should be regarded as much their

subordinates as of the Governor-General himself. We do not know what the actual views of the Government are in this matter, but we believe that the native chiefs will not be able to brook an assertion of authority over them by the Residents.

C A B U L.

The *Lauh-i-Mahfúz*, of the 20th April, says that the contemplated occupation of Khelat by the Government of India is the reason why the Amír of Cabul is attempting to incite a *jehad*. He looks upon this as an encroachment upon his dominions, Khelat being a part of Afghanistan. But Russian instigation seems to be at the bottom of the whole affair, because the Amír can hardly be expected to dare pick a quarrel with the English Government. To avoid bloodshed the Government should, in our opinion, give up the idea of occupying Khelat for the present.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

A correspondent of the *Kavi Vachan Sudha*, of the 23rd April, says that, in reference to the finances of India, a strange policy has been adopted this year. The suggestion of Lord Salisbury has been carried into effect. The cotton import duties have been abolished, and another tax has been substituted in their place. Now is the time for the Manchester weaver to sing jubilee over his loom. This is what is meant by justice. This is what is meant by the light of civilization. It is really a matter of laughter and shame that the cost of the education department in India has been reduced, so that the interests of the Manchester weaver might not suffer. This act of the Government is very unjust and arbitrary. There was a time when our wise Government spared no pains and expense to encourage learning among us. The times have now so far changed that the Government feels the education department a burden, and wishes to get rid of it. True, the work of education properly belongs to the people, and the Government has no concern with it. But if the people were to take into their own hands all the duties of the State, what will be the use of having the Government at all?

Nor does the foreign policy of Lord Lytton appear to have been successful. The Amír of Cabul has not yet consented to the establishment of the British agency in his dominions. Nothing has yet been done to ensure the future allegiance of the Affridís. Central Asia has been left to depend on the tender mercies of the Muscovite. He may use it as a cricket ground or as an hunting ground as he pleases. We wait to see what the time will bring forth.

The *Almora Akhbár*, of the 15th April, is glad to notice the increased interest taken of late in Almora by high Indian officials as exhibited by their paying visits to that part of the country. Since the time of the late Lord Mayo, all the Viceroy's of India have thought fit to visit Almora. It may be reasonably expected that some great good is looming in the future for the people of Almora. An extension of service granted to Sir Henry Ramsay is a great boon to them, since he takes a great interest in improving their condition.

The same paper says that the discontent caused among the people of Almora by the order of the district officer prohibiting them from keeping their herds of cattle in the same house in which they live, is based on ignorance. To keep the herd of cattle in a separate house and not in the dwelling-house is strongly recommended on sanitary grounds. But a departure from an old custom is naturally unpleasant to the people. But when in course of time they become convinced of the advantages of sanitary rules, they will soon appreciate the change forced upon them by the Government.

The *Mufid-i-Am*, of the 20th April, urges upon the Government the expedience of publishing an Urdu translation of the Indian Law Reports for the use of the subordinate courts of justice and pleaders unacquainted with English.

The *Jalwa-i-Túr*, of the 24th April, after publishing an account of the murder committed by Private Dillon in Nagpur in November last, and that of his acquittal by the Bombay

High Court, as it appeared in the *Pioneer*, remarks that to suppress this crime some murderers should be summarily hanged without trial. It is to be deeply regretted that the editor of the *Pioneer* out of partiality to his countrymen recommends the acquittal of the murderer. We hope that the Governor-General will not acquit the murderer on the plea of *delirium-tremens*.

The *Benares Akhbār*, of the 19th April, in its columns of extracts from newspapers, states that an officer of the Madras army was placed in charge of certain relief works. A dispute arose between him and the labourers on which he shot two of the latter.

The *Oudh Akhbār*, of the 27th April, says that it has heard through a trustworthy source that the Secretary of State for India has approved in its entirety the amalgamation scheme of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, which was submitted to him for sanction by the Government of India. This fact confirms us in the opinion that the Government of India undertakes no measure without great deliberation, and that all the measures of the Government aim at enhancing the prosperity of the people. It is, therefore, the duty of all Her Majesty's loyal and faithful subjects to keep an implicit faith in the honesty of purpose of the Government and to believe that all measures are intended to promote their own interests. The editor then praises Sir George Couper for his administrative ability and his courtesy and kindness shown to all. It was a very prevalent opinion at first that when Oudh was brought under the jurisdiction of the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces, he would not be easily accessible to the people of Oudh, but now we are glad to notice that the doors of the Government house are kept open for visitors from 4 p. m. till evening every day. The nobility and gentry of Oudh should always support the measures of the Government and try to explain them to the people.

[The *Ashraf-ul-Akbar*, of the 21st April, looks upon the license tax as the forerunner of the income tax. Now that the people have been habituated to the acreage tax levied from the zamindar, the license tax has been imposed upon them, and the next step will, of course, be the income tax. The higher classes of the people were apprised of Her Majesty's assumption of the imperial title by the medals, khelats, and titles they received at the Delhi darbar. Now to bring the same fact home to the lower classes they are called upon to pay the license tax. If the Government cannot help exacting the license tax, the tax should at least be confined to the bankers and great money-lenders, the followers of other trades and callings being altogether exempted.]

The *Prince of Wales Gazette*, of the 20th April, says that the imposition of the license tax in the North-Western Provinces has caused great agitation and excited a feeling of uneasiness among the poor. A poor trader who lives from hand to mouth and has a large family to support can hardly afford to pay the license fee. Those classes of traders who, according to the present schedule, will have to pay license fees below eight rupees should be exempted from the tax. The attention of the Government is also drawn to the fact that the Government currency notes are now sold at a discount. This is owing to the circumstance that they are now not readily cashed by Government treasuries as before. In the end the editor remarks that the taxes levied in the Meerut cantonments press heavily upon the poor who would be glad to see them supplanted by octroi duties.]

The *Nusrat-ul-Islam*, of the 21st April, republishes an article from the *Mukhbiri-Sarwar* on the Dillon case. One Mr. Dillon wounded a native with a clasp knife at Nagpur who died from the effects of the wounds. On the 13th April the murderer awaited trial before a jury, which wholly consisted of Europeans. The accused was adjudged to be mad and the verdict of the jury was, as usual, not guilty, and he was accord-

ingly acquitted. Europeans are reported to be proverbially wise, still whenever any of them commits a murder he is declared to be insame. But when a native perpetrates a murder, he is not alone condemned to death, but some other men are convicted with him as accomplices and sentenced to capital punishment. Such is the fate of wretched natives!

LOCAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Kavi Vachan Sudha*, of the 23rd April, in its columns of summary of news, states that a European soldier has killed a native seller of the juice of the palmyra tree in Haidarabad. The English Government has asked Sir Salar Jang to grant a subsistence allowance to the family of the deceased from the State treasury.

A correspondent of the *Akmal-ul-Akhhár*, of the 22nd April, bitterly complains of the filthy and dirty state of privies in private houses in Delhi, which is due to the culpable neglect of duty on the part of sweepers. Some satisfactory arrangements should be made to improve the present state of things, lest some great sickness should break out in the next rainy season.

A Benares correspondent of the *Ashraf-ul-Akhhár*, of the 21st April, states that owing to a storm of wind and rain seven boats sank down in the river at Benares, of which two boats, valued at some thousands of rupees, belonged to the ferry contractor. The bridge of boats at Benares should be displaced by a pontoon bridge. If the Government itself be unwilling to undertake the construction, it should give the ferry contract to a contractor for a long term of years, say for ten years, and the contractor may be asked to build a pontoon bridge.

A Mirzapur correspondent of the *Agra Akhhár*, of the 21st April, expressess deep regret on behalf of the inhabitants of Mirzapur at the contemplated transfer of Maulvi Farid-ud-

din Ahmad Khan, Subordinate Judge, from Mirzapur to Aligarh, and after dwelling on his good qualities, prays for his retention at Mirzapur.

The *Koh-i-Núr*, of the 21st April, on the authority of its correspondent, states that a highway robbery has been committed in Dapyalpur (Montgomery). The thanadar and zaildar have hushed up the matter for some special reasons.

The *Akhbar-i-Am*, of the 25th April, complains of the prevalence of theft in qasaba Chamári, tahsíl Akhbala, zila Amritsar.

LIST OF PAPERS EXAMINED.

No.	NAME.	LOCALITY.	LANGUAGE.	MONTHLY, OR WEEKLY, OR OTHERWISE.	DATE.	CIRCULATION.
1	Agra Akhbār	Agra	Urdū	Weekly	April 21st, 1877.	327 copies (including 50 copies taken by Government).
2	Akhabār-i-Alam	Meerut	Ditto	Ditto	" " 25th	80 copies.
3	Akhabār-i-Am	Lahore	Ditto	Ditto	" "	945 copies (including 336 copies taken by Government).
4	Akhyar-ul-Akhabār	Lucknow	Ditto	Tri-monthly,	19th	137 copies.
5	Akmal-ul-Akhabār	Delhi	Ditto	Weekly	" 22nd	120 "
6	Aligarh Institute Gazette	Aligarh	Urdū-English	Ditto	" 20th	343 copies (including 94 copies taken by Government).
7	Almorah Akhabār	Almorah	Hindī	Bi-monthly,	15th	77 copies.
8	Anjuman-i-Akhabār	Lucknow	Urdū	Weekly	" 21st	130 "
9	Anjuman-i-Panjāb	Lahore	Ditto	Ditto	" 20th	410 copies (including 250 copies taken by Government).
10	Asfiyār-ul-Akhabār	Lucknow	Ditto	Bi-monthly,	" "	100 copies.
11	Benares Akhabār	Delhi	Ditto	Tri-monthly,	" 21st	105 "
12		Benares	Hindī	Weekly	April 5th, 12th, & 19th, 1877.	58 "

13	<i>Chashma-i-Nisr</i> ...	...	Amritsar	...	Urdú	...	Ditto	...	April 11th, & 18th, 1877.	...
14	<i>Dabdaba-i-Sikandari</i> ...	...	Rampur	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	April 23rd, 1877.	352
15	<i>Gwalior Gazette</i> ...	...	Gwalior	...	Hindí-Urdú	...	Weekly	...	" 22nd "	"
16	<i>Harish Chandra's Magazine</i> ...	...	Benares	...	Hindí-Sanskrit	...	Monthly	...	From May to December, 1876.	250
17	<i>Jaipur Akhbár (Rájputana)</i> ...	...	Jaipur	...	Urdú	...	Weekly	...	April 20th, 1877.	125
18	<i>Jalwa-i-Tár</i> ...	...	Meerut	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	" 24th "	142
19	<i>Kabya Chandro daya</i> ...	...	Amritsar	...	Gurumukhi	...	Ditto	...	" 11th "	"
20	<i>Kárnámah</i> ...	...	Lucknow	...	Urdú	...	Ditto	...	" 23rd "	300
21	<i>Kaukab-i-Hind</i> ...	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	Bi-monthly	...	" 25th "	260
22	<i>Kavi Vachan Sudha</i> ...	...	Benares	...	Hindí-English	...	Weekly	...	" 23rd "	300
23	<i>Khair Khwáh-i-Alam</i> ...	...	Delhi	...	Urdú	...	Ditto	...	" 24th "	160
24	<i>Khair Khwáh-i-Hind</i> ...	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	" "	200
25	<i>Khair Khwáh-i-Oudh</i> ...	...	Lucknow	...	Ditto	...	Bi-monthly	...	April 20th, & 22nd, 1877.	30
26	<i>Khair Khwáh-i-Panjáb</i> ...	...	Gujranwála	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	April 24th, 1877.	500
27	<i>Koh-i-Nisr</i> ...	...	Lahore	...	Ditto	...	Weekly	...	" 21st "	495 copies (including 30 copies taken by Government).
28	<i>Lana-i-Nisr</i> ...	...	Jaunpur	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	April 1st & 20th, 1877.	57 copies.
29	<i>Lauk-i-Mahfuz</i> ...	...	Moradabad	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	23rd March, & 20th April, 1877.	85
30	<i>Lawrence Gazette</i> ...	...	Meerut	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	April 24th, 1877.	500 copies (including 50 copies taken by Government).
31	<i>Lytton Gazette</i> ...	...	Delhi	...	Ditto	...	Bi-monthly	...	" 22nd "	200 copies.
32	<i>Mihir-i-Darakshshan</i> ...	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	Tri-monthly	...	" 21st "	400
33	<i>Mutwa Akhbár</i> ...	...	Indore	...	Mahrathi	...	Weekly	...	" 18th "	"

List of papers examined—(concluded).

No.	NAME.	LOCALITY.	LANGUAGE.	MONTHLY, WEEKLY, OR OTHERWISE.	DATE.	CIRCULATION.
34	Márwár Gazette ...	Jodhpur	Hindí-Urdú	Weekly ...	April 16th & 23rd, 1877.	100 copies.
35	Meerut Gazette ...	Meerut	Urdú	Ditto ...	April 23rd, 1877.	80 "
36	Mufid-i-Am ...	Agra	Ditto	Tri-monthly	April 10th & 20th, 1877.	100 "
37	Mufid-i-Hind ...	Delhi	Ditto	Weekly ...	April 24th, 1877.	125 "
38	Mumba-ul-Akham	Lucknow	Ditto	Bi-monthly,	" "	30 "
39	Mutla-i-Núr	Cawnpore	Ditto	Weekly ...	" "	50 "
40	Muzaffarnagar Institute Gazette	Muzaffarnagar	Ditto	Ditto ...	" 20th "	" "
41	Najm-ul-Akhhár	Meerut	Ditto	Ditto	" 24th "	150 "
42	Nasir-ul-Eman	Lahore	Ditto	Monthly	Decr. 15th, 1876.	45 "
43	Nizam-ul-Akhhár	Delhi	Ditto	Weekly	April 23rd, 1877.	407 "
44	Núr-i-Afshan	Ludhiana	Ditto	Ditto	" 26th "	200 "
45	Núr-ul-Afzaq	Cawnpore	Ditto	Bi-monthly,	" 21st "	380 "
46	Núr-ul-Anwar	Ditto	Ditto	Weekly	" "	100 "
47	Nusrat-ul-Akhhár	Delhi	Ditto	Tri-monthly,	" "	70 "
48	Nusrat-ul-Islám	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	" "	700 copies (in-
49	Oudh Akhhár	Lucknow	Ditto	Tri-weekly...	April 22nd, 25th & 27th, 1877.	cluding 50 copies taken by Govern-ment).
50	Oudh Punch	Ditto	Ditto	Weekly	April 24th	230 copies.
51	Panjábi Akhhár	Lahore	Ditto	Ditto	" 21st	325 "
52	Patiala Akhhár	Patiala	Ditto	Ditto	" 23rd	247 "
53	Prince of Wales' Gazette	Meerut	(Hindí-Urdú-English).	Ditto.	" 20th	" "

54	<i>Qaisar-ul-Akbbār</i> ...	...	Allahabad	...	Ditto	...	" 21st	100	"
55	<i>Rakbur-i-Hind</i> ...	...	Lahore	...	Ditto	...	April 21st & 24th, 1877.	450	"
56	<i>Rohilkhand Akhbār</i>	...	Moradabad	...	Ditto	...	" 21st	210 copies (including 50 copies taken by Government).	"
57	<i>Sadiq-ul-Akbbār</i> ...	...	Bhawulpur	...	Ditto	...	" 23rd	699 copies.	"
58	<i>Safir-i-Budhana</i> ...	...	Muzaffarnagar	...	Ditto	...	" 18th	500	"
59	<i>Saiad-ul-Akbbār</i> ...	...	Delhi	...	Hindī-Urdū	...	March 1st & April, 20th, 1877.	86	"
60	<i>Shola-i-Tūr</i> ...	...	Cawnpore	...	Urdū	...	April, 24th, 1877.	310	"
61	<i>Tohfah-i-Káshmir</i>...	...	Srinagar	...	Ditto	...	" 16th	250 copies (including 200 copies taken by Maharaja of Káshmir).	"
62	<i>Umdat-ul-Akbbār</i> ...	...	Fatehgarh	...	Ditto	...	April 18th & 25th, 1877.	150 copies.	"
63	<i>Urdū Akhbār</i> ...	...	Akola	...	Mahrati	...	April 21st, 1877.	130	"
64	<i>Urdū Akhbār (Akola)</i>	...	Ditto	...	Urdū	...	" "	190	"
65	<i>Vakil-i-Hindustán</i>	...	Amritsar	...	Ditto	...	" "	212	"
66	<i>Vrit Dhárá</i>	Dhár	...	Mahrati	...	" 23rd	175	"

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